

AMENDED CLAIMS

1. (Amended) A particle measuring apparatus comprising:

a flow cell in which a particle monitoring area is formed in a first passage by
5 irradiating the flow cell with light; and

a condenser means for condensing light scattered by particles contained in
sample fluid passing through the particle monitoring area so as to obtain information
including a particle diameter,

10 wherein the central axis of the first passage substantially corresponds to the
optical axis of the condenser means, and inner walls of the flow cell are arranged so as
not to hinder the scattered light from entering the outmost periphery portion of the
condenser means.

2. (Amended) The particle measuring apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the
15 flow cell further comprises a second passage which is substantially perpendicular to the
first passage.

20 3. (Added) The particle measuring apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the
flow cell further comprises a second passage having a pyramidal shape or a conical
shape, the central axis of which substantially corresponds to that of the first passage.

25 4. (Added) The particle measuring apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the
flow cell further comprises second passages having a pyramidal shape or a conical
shape provided on the upstream side and the downstream side of the flow cell, the
central axis of which substantially corresponds to that of the first passage, and two
condenser means are provided opposite with respect to the flow cell.